"The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, securing to the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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COAL INDUSTRY LOSSES NOT CAUSED BY STRIKES

Washington, Feb. 18.—The United States geological survey has mashed one of the favorite claims of anti-unionists by showing that trikes in the mining industry during the past 20 years is responsible for ut one-tenth of the time lost. The other nine-tenths of time lost was aused chiefly by no market, car shortage and mine disability.

In a statement on "Time Lost Through Strikes," the geological urvey says:

"In the 20-year period, 1900-1919, the operators reported a total ss of 124,747,199 man-days, through strikes, but the loss attributable o other causes was 1,053,576,000 man-days, or eight and a half times s great as the strike loss.

"The statistics of strikes include time lost between the termination of one agreement and the signing of another.

"The record year in point of man-days lost on account of strikes was 1910, yet the 19,250,524 days sacrificed to strikes in that year were only 50 per cent of the total days lost, for the causes other than trikes were responsible for a loss of 44,693,242 man-days."

Anti-Strike Law Rests On Violence and Bluff

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 18.—The Allen "can't-strike" law is a violent statute. It rejects moderate methods. It makes no attempt at mediation. Even its friends do not think the law can be fully enforced. o create crimes which no one expects to punish is simply not honest. It is sheer bluff.

The above were a few of the views delivered by C. J. Evans, attorney for the Bell telephone company, in his discussion with Judge Huggins of the industrial court before a public forum in this city.

Mr. Evans said the fallacy which underlies the industrial court law is encountered in its very name. It is called a court, but Justice Burch of the state supreme court says it is simply an administrative board, and that it was called a court "as a matter of legislative subterfuge."

"That is to say," said Mr. Evans, "the gathers of the law were guilty of false pretense in the very act of bringing it to life.

"It is the business of a court to settle controversies over legal rights. In so doing it makes findings as to the facts and then applies predetermined rules to those facts.

"A so-called labor dispute is something altogether different. Seldom, if ever, contends that the other deprives him of a legal right which can be settled in the ordinary course of law to the facts. Either employer or employe claims that there is some existing rule of law which, when applied to the facts, will determine just what wages are to be paid or what working conditions must be. Each party simply claims the right to bargain and the right to contract if the parties can agree. If the parties can not agree, workmen claim the economic privilege of withholding their labor. A strike is itself in no sense an act of violence. It simply be withholding of labor, due to failure to come to an agreement.

"The judgments of courts do not furnish the basis of future business dealings between parties. A law suit generally contemplates a termination of business relations. When a business partnership is ready for the court it is ready to dissolve and goes to court for a final settlement.

"The court of industrial relations law is a violent statute. It breathes anathemas all the way through. It is inspired by the theory that capital dependence is the criminal law. Even its friends do not think the law can be enforced fully. If ten thousand workmen strike the law makers of their action call for thousand misdemeanors, subject to ten thousand fines and jail sentences. Nobody contemplates that such a law be fully enforced. To create crimes which no one expects to punish is simply not honest. It is sheer bluff.

"There have been only two severe labor controversies in Kansas since the law was enacted, that is the coal strike, and the case of the packers' industry. In the case of the packers' industry, in the case of the special employes' strike the failure was humiliating.

"In that case the court made a temporary order as a basis for temporary conduct of the industry. Before the court should be engaged in investigations to determine what permanent order fixing wages and conditions it should make. Well, it failed to enforce its temporary order.

"Then, after making some investigations, the court utterly abandoned its proceedings and issued a permanent order whatever.

"It had to face the probability of confiscating the Kansas business of the packing companies, in jail and the railroad way lost its nerve and ran away."

PASSPORTS TO CHATTELS.

Washington, Feb. 14.—The passport system which Pacific coast resort owners are attempting to enforce in an improvement over the passport which the slave owner gave to the chattel prior to the civil war, says Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's union.

"What a pity that the whole thing is such a fake—such a joke," says the trade unionist. "The ship wners pretend not to know what the thing is and the police and secret ervice in every country, namely, hat the passport and photo are the best security that can be furnished for the crook, unless there s the strictest and most painstaking investigation every time such passport is exhibited to the police know the passport officers now, that passports are forged, hat pictures are removed and others put on and it is a simple matter to do it.

"The ship owner surely has this knowledge and since he has always maintained that he has no use for 'wobblies' better than we do, he must also know that almost all are to-day past masters in the art of forging passports, whether the passport be industrial or not.

"Did the ship owner establish the book with the pretense of purpose of getting rid of the honest and generally innocent minded real seamen, in order to obtain a reference to him, the keen-witted I. W. W. trusted in the arts of sabotage, of the detective and of he provocateur."

WANT MORE JOBLESS.

San Francisco, Feb. 18.—The industrial association, an organization of business men, is advertising in eastern papers, in an effort to get